

# ALAMOGORDO NEWS-ADVERTISER

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## THE CO. HIGH SCHOOL

### THE ADVANTAGES OF A COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL

Discussed by  
R. S. TIPTON  
Supt. Otero County Schools

School tax is the only tax that comes directly back to the people. Talk is talk and facts are facts.

If you favor the high school, why is it because it is to be placed near your door and will be a direct benefit to you? Do you favor it because you think it will be a benefit to Otero county? or do you favor it because you think we owe this to the boys and girls of the county? or do you favor it just on general principles, believing that any move for education is a good thing?

Have you ever taken time to investigate the proposition? Do you know exactly why you favor the high school?

If you do not favor the establishment of a county high school, why not? Would you vote for it if it were to be located in your district? Do you believe it would be a bad thing for the county? If it would be a good thing for the county in your district, why not in any district? Is your reason personal or general? Are you viewing the proposition from the standpoint of the county as a whole, or are your ideas sectional? Make up your mind to be fair and unprejudiced in your decision and then weigh carefully the following facts.

At present there is not a high school in Otero county that can give to our children the advantages they should have. In every school where the high school work is being done, it is necessary to divide this work out among the grade teachers. That means crowded conditions in the grammar grades and the high school work. It means that though the children may be able to pass they have not had that thoroughness in training that they should have had. Not a school in the county is equipped for doing the work as it should be done. No teacher can do good work who has to teach high school work in addition to the grammar grades.

Under the High School Bill all the counties of the state are eligible for a county high school, with two exceptions, and those two counties are trying hard to get the legislature to amend the bill as to admit them. A number of the counties are at work now establishing their county high schools.

The law making the county high school possible provides that agriculture, commercial science, domestic science and manual training must be taught in every county high school. These are subjects of vital importance to our boys and girls, subjects of which they are now necessarily deprived.

The district in which the school is located must furnish the building and regains without cost to the county.

A tax not to exceed two mills may be levied on the county for the purpose of maintaining the school, but under no circumstances can this levy ever exceed two mills.

In order to establish such a school, a petition must be presented to the county commissioners, bearing the names of at least one fifth of all the qualified voters of the county (including women), asking the commissioners to call an election for the people to vote on the establishment of a county high school to be located at the place named in the petition. If a majority of the votes cast favor the school, it shall be established, and the district in which it is located shall elect three directors who shall have charge of same, provided that the county superintendent shall be a member of the board ex-officio.

All children of the county who have finished the eighth grade shall be entitled to attend the school free of charge.

There are at present about one hundred children in the county who are doing high school work. Can the people of Otero county afford to give these boys and girls a free high school education? Will it be worth the cost to the boys and girls? Will it be worth the cost to the county?

Consider carefully the following figures: they are given for your information: The treasurer's records show that for the year 1912 there was paid into the county treasury approximately \$110,000.00. Of this amount the various large companies of the county, not including mercantile companies, paid approximately \$70,000.00. Individual taxpayers and the smaller companies paid approximately \$40,000.00. This year out of an enrollment of 75 in the high school 29 are non-residents at the present time, the greater portion of the later being from other districts in Otero county. The high school department is about double or treble the expense of any other room.

District No. 1 at the present time has a high school building which is entirely adequate, with possible additions to the facilities for teaching domestic science, manual training, for county purposes. This was erected at a cost of \$14,000. The additional expense for equipment which falls on the district wherein

### WHERE A COUNTY SCHOOL SHOULD BE LOCATED

Discussed by  
C. W. MORGAN  
Secretary District No. 1

The following is a summary of the provisions of Chapter 7, statutes of 1912, providing for the establishment of county high schools:

Sec. 1. County high schools may be established in counties having a population of 5,000 or more.

Sec. 2. One-fifth of the qualified electors of the county, including women, must petition the county commissioners to call an election; place must be named in the petition. The ballots must read: "For a county high school at..." and "Against a county high school at..."

A majority of the votes cast at such election shall determine the matter.

Sec. 3. All children of the county who have passed the eighth grade shall be eligible to entrance in the county high school.

Sec. 4. The management and government of a county high school shall be under the board of school directors of the district in which the high school is located and the county superintendent is an ex-officio member of the board.

Sec. 5. Women may qualify to serve on the board of control.

Sec. 6. For purposes of maintenance only, a county levy not to exceed two mills on the dollar is permitted.

Sec. 7. Relates to the handling of the two mill levy; Not more than one county high school shall be established in any county of the state during any one year. When an additional county high school shall be established it shall receive during the first year not to exceed one-third of the money then in the high school fund, after which the funds shall be divided in proportion to the number of pupils in each school.

Sec. 8. Expressly states that cost of site, location of building, and the cost thereof, shall be borne entirely by the district wherein the high school is located.

Sec. 9. Authorizes districts to issue bonds to pay for building and site.

Sec. 10. Expressly provides that manual training, domestic science, the elements of agriculture, and commercial science, shall be taught in county high schools.

Nearly every county in the state of New Mexico is now engaged in setting a county high school established under the law enacted by the last legislature. In a few counties, Otero county included, there is a spirit of rivalry as to where the school should be located. However, in most instances the county seat is conceded to be the logical and most advantageous location. The high school bill was one of the most progressive and modern measures in the interests of the public schools that has been passed by the New Mexico legislature. In a general way it was patterned after similar bills in several other states, where the plan is found economical and best to equalize the opportunities for all children to obtain high school education.

We will assume that a majority of the people of Otero county are progressive enough to want the best educational advantages for the children and that a large majority in the county concede that a high school is needed.

That being so, the question arises in the mind of every qualified elector where the matter where the school should be located. Now the purpose of this article is to convince the voters that Alamogordo is the most feasible location for a county high school.

1st. In justice to the situation. District number one which includes Alamogordo, has been doing high school work for a number of years and three years ago instituted an accredited high school course. There have been graduations from that course the past two years and this year a class of eight was graduated. The school has been open to a qualified pupils from over the county, free of tuition, and the local taxpayers in district No. 1 have borne the burden. Many students have availed themselves of this opportunity and where families have moved in to get the advantage of higher instruction for members of the family the younger pupils have crowded the lower grades, to the detriment of those living here. However, there has been no objection, because the several boards, backed by the business men, have been enterprising enough to advocate free schools to all in the county and have not complained. This year out of an enrollment of 75 in the high school 29 are non-residents at the present time, the greater portion of the later being from other districts in Otero county. The high school department is about double or treble the expense of any other room.

District No. 1 at the present time has a high school building which is entirely adequate, with possible additions to the facilities for teaching domestic science, manual training, for county purposes. This was erected at a cost of \$14,000. The additional expense for equipment which falls on the district wherein

the county high school is located, would not be very great.

Even should a high school be located in some other district of the county this condition will still obtain in the Alamogordo schools, for there are families moving in from other portions of the county all the while to obtain school advantages. Thus from a motive of fairness in the matter the voter should vote for the establishment of a high school at Alamogordo.

2nd. The establishment of a high school at Alamogordo would bring the greatest good to the largest number. Even granting that should Alamogordo be turned down in the coming election on the establishment of a high school and that some other district would then be able to secure such a school, the number any other district in the county would be able to care for would be limited. At the present time and maybe for years Alamogordo must have by a large proportion the greater number of high school scholars. This district at the present time has one-third of the school population of the county and possibly a little larger proportion of the number of high school pupils. Would it be fair to have our children go to Cloudercroft or Tularosa. It might be argued that Dist. No. 1 could still retain its high school course, but that would not be the spirit the law was created in.

3rd. To defeat district No. 1 in the election on March 29th, on the high school proposition, means no county high school for several years and possibly permanent defeat, and that is something we assume no progressive and thinking man or woman in the county desires.

It is quite likely that the writer would not have mentioned the name of other districts that are working on the defeat of Alamogordo had it not been for the publication of articles from Cloudercroft and Tularosa that somewhat misrepresents the situation, evidently for the intention of befuddling the minds of the voters. From what these correspondents say there are a number in each place who desire to defeat the county election on the matter with the idea that Cloudercroft or Tularosa will then be able to get a county high school. Now what are the facts in the case? If the people of district No. 1, with the assistance of the county precincts, which are vitally affected in the matter, will get busy the high school proposition will not be defeated. But if it is, what could Cloudercroft or Tularosa do? The commissioners have held in the present session that one-fifth of the qualified voters, including women, would have to total about 800 or more. Can either place secure that number of signers, after adopting a "dog-in-the-manger" policy. Well, assume that they can; Tularosa school district has an assessed valuation of \$313,443. The present bonded indebtedness is \$3,000; the limit they can issue is \$13,000 more, they can issue on a pinch \$10,000 more. That will build a stumpy county high school, but the people would have to dig down to equip it.

In the case of Cloudercroft it is far worse. The district's assessed valuation is \$177,782. The bond issue is \$3,500 and the total amount the district would be permitted under the law to bond for would be \$7,500. That would not build and equip a high school building that would be in any sense a county high school. So Cloudercroft could not "pull down the bacon" no matter how commendable and enterprising her citizens might be in the matter. There is another phase to the matter which is somewhat harsh to even consider, but we must face a possible situation. Should any district or any two districts in the county combine to defeat the present proposition, and should succeed, could not District No. 1, with one-third of the votes, defeat a proposition initiated by those districts? And would it not be just about human nature to do so?

To summarize, if the writer has interpreted the situation arightly and expressed conditions correctly to defeat the present proposition is to forego a county high school in Otero county for some time; and if the people of the county favor the establishment of a high school, which was the starting assumption, Alamogordo is the only locality in the county that can swing the proposition, because it has already a county high school in fact, with the local taxpayer paying the expense, and adequate buildings are already existent.

The matter is certainly one every qualified voter should ponder between now and election day and decide according to his or her best judgment in a fair and impartial manner. It is to be regretted that some degree of sectional jealousy should have been injected into the question by such articles as have appeared in the El Paso papers from correspondents. The thinking voter must decide on the idea of the greatest good to the largest number, regardless of whether one community or another would profit a little the most.

Don't Make Them Peevish

Some of the city fathers are getting quite impatient about people driving their wagons and buggies across the irrigating ditches. We see where they are right, for it makes the ditches break and the water deluges the streets. Don't do it any more, let's have harmony if we can't have anything else.

A New Profession

Charles D. Miller, formerly territorial engineer of New Mexico, and well known in Santa Fe, has opened an office in Albuquerque—probably the first of its kind. Says the Albuquerque Journal: "Mr. Miller has not decided on a title for it, nor is he prone to discuss it. Probably the best name which can now be applied to it is that of 'consulting land engineer'. Mr. Miller desires to act as agent for those who wish to settle in New Mexico. His work will be to select land which has water at the requisite depth, or to which water can be applied at proper cost, land which is free from mineral defects, such as alkali; to look after water rights and to generally guarantee to the investor or settler that the land upon which he is desirous of settling is the right sort and a proper investment. Mr. Miller proposes to investigate the chemical constituents of soil, look after the drainage, the irrigation

## CLEANING UP THE TOWN

### Trimming Trees, Cleaning the Ditches, Grading Streets, Financial Statement

The town trustees believing that the citizens of the town are interested in their doings and are entitled to know what is being done with the moneys collected have made public the report published below of the financial condition of the incorporated town. This balance on hand has been accumulated without a tax levy as was promised at the time incorporation was being talked of by the business men and the town trustees have been able to keep the promises on which they were elected. Now that sufficient money is on hand to do some good, plans have been perfected to trim the trees, grade the necessary streets, improve the irrigation ditches, clean the streets and do many other things necessary to beautify the town and make it a good place in which to live.

Trustee George Tower started Tuesday morning with a force of men pruning the shade trees under the instructions of Mr. Fabian Garcia of the state agricultural college. Following is the financial statement of the town of Alamogordo: Fire department fund:

Cash received ..... \$416.00  
Cash paid out ..... 68.25

Cash on hand ..... \$347.75  
Sprinkling fund:  
Receipts ..... \$1,603.57  
Paid out ..... 836.10

Balance on hand ..... \$767.47  
General fund:

Cash received, mostly from licenses and occupation tax ..... \$2,077.82  
Paid out, general expenses ..... 453.24  
Paid out, police ..... 509.75

General fund balance \$1,114.83  
Total cash on hand February 10th, 1913:

Fire department ..... \$347.75  
Sprinkling dept. .... 767.47  
General fund ..... 1,114.83

Total ..... \$2,230.05

In the court order issued by Judge Medler temporarily giving the town of Alamogordo water for the trees the first seven days of each month, the town was specifically instructed to take proper care of the trees. As to what constituted proper care of them, Prof. Fabian Garcia, of the College Experiment farm was to be the authority.

For that purpose Prof. Garcia was in Alamogordo Tuesday of this week and looked over the situation. He left the following written instructions to govern the town board in the matter. They may serve as good advice to others besides the town authorities:

"The trees do not need to be cut back nor 'dehorned' except in a very few cases where the trees have been badly stunted. Most of these trees are to be found in the northeast corner of the town. Such trees could be helped by cutting them back.

"All that is necessary is to remove all of the dead and decayed limbs. It will also be well to remove a few of the lower and longer limbs that are badly interfering or that are too low.

"These trees were planted for shade and for beautifying the city. If these trees are cut back when it is not necessary it will spoil the beautiful appearance of the city and you will lose the benefit of the shade for two or three years, one of the purposes for which they were planted.

"If all of these trees were to be cut back there would be a number of them that could not sprout and would die.

"While there are a number of smaller trees in among the larger ones and will probably have to be removed in the future I would advise that they remain in place for one or two years longer.

"Great care should be taken that the trees do not suffer from lack of moisture. Such injury may come about from the water not percolating or getting to the roots, but is principally caused by not using the proper amount of water in the proper way."

A New Profession

Charles D. Miller, formerly territorial engineer of New Mexico, and well known in Santa Fe, has opened an office in Albuquerque—probably the first of its kind. Says the Albuquerque Journal: "Mr. Miller has not decided on a title for it, nor is he prone to discuss it. Probably the best name which can now be applied to it is that of 'consulting land engineer'. Mr. Miller desires to act as agent for those who wish to settle in New Mexico. His work will be to select land which has water at the requisite depth, or to which water can be applied at proper cost, land which is free from mineral defects, such as alkali; to look after water rights and to generally guarantee to the investor or settler that the land upon which he is desirous of settling is the right sort and a proper investment. Mr. Miller proposes to investigate the chemical constituents of soil, look after the drainage, the irrigation

problems of a legal nature, and all other matters of importance to the prospective buyer. His idea is to fit the buyer to the right parcel of land."—New Mexican.

Death of Jeff Haddaman

Jefferson S. Haddaman died Tuesday morning, February 11, at 8:00 o'clock at the family home of tuberculosis.

Funeral services were held Wednesday morning at the M. E. Church, South, and were conducted by G. W. A. Latham, an old time friend of his family, assisted by Revs. Givan and Cooks.

Mr. Haddaman was born and raised in Texas and came to Alamogordo about nine years ago. Less than two years ago he contracted tuberculosis, the disease quickly laying waste a frame that had been unusually vigorous in early manhood. He leaves a wife and four children.

A Good Proposition Here

E. D. Williams, representative of the Lullwater Pumping Engine company, of Rochester, N. Y., and Los Angeles, Calif., was in Alamogordo Monday, having taken a run up from El Paso to see the country and the prospect for doing business. He found that Frank Rousseau had already taken a contract to put in a pumping plant using the outfit manufactured by his firm. Mr. Williams was highly pleased at the looks of the country, and is convinced that pumping propositions here are more feasible than in a great many other localities where they are pumping with great success.

Ambitious Alamogordo Hen

Mrs. R. Gilliland, who is more familiarly known by her immediate friends as "Grandma" Gilliland, has a pullet of unknown parentage as to breed, which one day this week laid an egg measuring 7 3/4 inches one way and 6 1/4 the other. It would make a turkey hen go to work before daylight and the question is if that pullet can lay that sized egg about the first rattle out of the box what can she do if grandma keeps her a few years. We pass it up to Charles Bensley or R. S. Conwell, as they are the chicken experts.

Lecture Enjoyed by Many

Dr. H. W. Sears presented the fourth number of the Iyemou course Wednesday night at the Christian church in the presence of a large audience. The lecture was highly humorous with plenty of philosophy of life.

Dr. Sears expressed the opinion that this old world is getting better all the time morally, socially and from politically. His subject was "More Taffy and Less Epitaphy." His advice is to have a good word and a pleasant smile for all whom you meet. It is better to encourage the man who is living rather than strew flowers on his grave and eulogize him after death.

He stated that he had been at his home in Illinois during the last election there would have been one more vote for "Teddy." But he stated that on the fourth of next month, the United States would have a second Abraham Lincoln in the presidential chair.

Every one of the doctor's auditors are certainly better off for having heard him.

Obtained Considerable Pablicity

The little article printed in the News-Advertiser last week relative to the embroidered quilt of Mrs. H. C. Lane, attracted considerable notice from outside points as evidenced by communications she has received relative to the quilt. The article was copied in El Paso and Albuquerque papers, under special telegraph dispatches. One letter requests a more detailed description and history of the quilt with a photograph, the intention of the writer being to syndicate a magazine article.

Apportionment of School Funds

Superintendent of Schools R. S. Tipton on February 12th made the following apportionment of school funds to the several districts of the county. The rate the division was made was \$1.00 per capita to 2434 pupils in the county:

District	No. of Scholars	Amount
1	305	305
2	82	82
3	72	72
4	479	479
5	112	112
6	95	95
7	55	55
8	62	62
9	40	40
10	116	116
11	114	114
12	46	46
13	17	17
14	47	47
15	40	40
16	30	30
17	50	50
18	42	42
19	17	17
20	21	21
21	17	17
22	48	48
23	27	27

Presbyterian Church

For February 16 the 11 a. m. address will be, "Our Greatest President, Abraham Lincoln." The 7:30 p. m. sermon will be, "God as Creator, Father, Redeemer, Judge." Welcome to all worshipping with us.

## An ELECTRIC FRANCHISE

### COMES TOO HIGH, SAY THE PROMOTERS

Great Inducement for capital to install an Electric Light and Power Plant in Alamogordo.

Alamogordo is a beautiful town of about 1200 inhabitants, fine schools, county seat of Otero county, good railroad facilities, with a surrounding country with fine soil and shallow water for pumping purposes and irrigation. The town is incorporated and the board of trustees makes the following proposition and inducement for capital to invest money in a much-needed power plant in the town: (omit: The board will grant a franchise on the following conditions which they consider a "fair" proposition:

The power plant owners to furnish the town with 25 lights of not less than 250 candlepower for street lighting purpose gratis and to sell the town up to as many as 25 more lights of the same size at not to exceed \$1.00 a month per light.

Town to have the right to purchase the power plant and equipment at the end of five years at actual value less depreciation and the price to be determined by arbitration board if necessary.

Work to start not later than three months from date of franchise and to be completed in twelve months. Electric power to be furnished for pumping purposes for not to exceed three cents per kilowatt.

The cost of the plant complete with wiring, poles, etc., 100 horse power fuel oil engine, would be \$30,000. Interest on investment \$3,000; salary for employees \$3,000; taxes \$750; fuel to run the plant day and night up to its full capacity \$5,500 at the rate of six cents a gallon for fuel oil or 63 cents per hour for plant; depreciation, maintenance and repairs \$3,000. Total for expenses, interest \$15,250.00. Approximate cost of maintenance of 50 lights of 250 candle power each, allowing \$1 per month for 25 would amount to \$200 per month, or \$3,600 for one year.

At the present time the earnings of a power plant for furnishing electric lights in the town are approximately \$700 per month, or \$8,400 per year.

Adding the \$3,600 demanded by the board of trustees for the franchise to the \$15,250.00, expenses of operating the plant, then considering the gross income of \$3,600, the reader will readily see what a splendid inducement is held out to capital to invest in an electric light and power plant in Alamogordo.

Running the plant in daytime to its capacity and selling the power at 3 cents per kilowatt would barely pay the expense of operation.

Except with an extraordinary increase in business it would be more than five years before the plant would even pay expenses.

Hefner-Brummett

Frank N. Hefner of Toyah, Texas, and Miss Gertrude Brummett, formerly of Toyah, but a pupil in the Alamogordo high school for the past year, were married at the El Alchir residence in College addition, Monday morning at eleven o'clock. The ceremony was performed by Justice of the Peace W. K. Staleup. Soon after the ceremony the bride and groom departed for their home in Toyah.

Will Do an Old Fashioned Stunt

The "Village Singing School of 50 years Ago" will be depicted, portrayed and rendered at the High School auditorium Friday evening, Feb. 28, by the choir of the Presbyterian church, together with some assisting talent. You should go and hear some of the old songs you love so well. Further announcement later.

### TO SAFEGUARD THE CITY, SAY THE TRUSTEES

Communication from Trustee A. J. Buck including an estimate for George Carl of power plant by a Chicago Co.

Estimate on one 100 horse power oil engine direct connected to Electric Generator.

1 100 horse power horizontal oil engine with 1 75 K. W. 220 volt A. C. electric generator, direct connected to engine shaft, approximately 70,000 lbs. \$10,000.00. Freight New York to Alamogordo, \$800.00. Labor, etc., installing, \$600.00. Plant completely installed, \$12,000.00. The plant to be sold to you guaranteed not to use more than 3-4 of one pound of fuel oil per each horse power hour, or 10 1-2 gallons per hour for the plant.

We can sell you this fuel oil at six cents per gallon F. O. B. Alamogordo. Fuel cost to operate plant per hour, 62 cents. Cost per K. W. hour of electric current, .0084. The above was handed to me by George Carl, he being accompanied by a man whom he introduced as a representative of the Mine and Smelter Supply company, of Chicago and the representative stated that they would guarantee the above figures. I wrote to the New Mexico College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, and this is what I received in reply:

State College, N. M., Feb. 11, 13  
A. J. Buck,

Alamogordo, N. M.,  
Sir:—Your letter of February 8th addressed to President W. E. Garrison has been referred to me for reply. It is quite possible to develop to develop electric energy at 8.4 mills per K. W. hr., depending entirely upon the type and size of the plant, however I imagine that this charge is simply the fuel cost per K. W. hr. and should you contemplating the installation of a plant you must know that there are many other charges than that of the fuel charge, such as interest, superintendence, labor, insurance, taxes, etc., which will go to make up the expense in operating a plant and are chargeable to the output of the plant.

Your question in regard to the cost of operating a 250 c. p. tungsten lamp, will say that it will require about 1 1/4 watts per c. p. Therefore it will take approximately 312 1/2 watts per hour, and for 10 hrs. it would take 3125 and 8.4 m. would be equivalent to 2 1/2 cents approximately. But recollect that this charge is for current at the switch board and does not take into consideration the cost of the lamp or the cost of the line or the superintendence or any other of the overhead charges.

I would be pleased to go into this subject at length with you if you will furnish me with all information in regard to same. I have given you what information is possible with the very small amount of data furnished me.

If I can be of further service please call on me.

A. B. SAGE.

At 2 1/2 for a 250 candle power light for ten hours, 30 days to the month would be 75c for one light and 25 lights for 12 months at 75c each would be \$187.50 per year.

Now the town board offers to pay \$1.00 a month for 25 extra lights or \$300.00 a year, and at the above figures fifty lights (twenty-five to be furnished free and twenty-five paid for) at \$1.00 a month was the town board's proposition, made to Mr. Carl. Fifty lights would cost to operate twice \$187.50 a year, or \$375.00 less \$300 from the town or a net loss to Mr. Carl's company of \$75.00 a year, which is \$.625 per month. Of course this does not include cost to install lights or the loss in power in transmission, but these items are nominal as the lines and poles would need to be installed anyway presuming that Mr. Carl intended to furnish lights to the citizens of the town.

## Laces, Embroideries and Trimmings

Without doubt we are showing the most up-to-date and finest assortment of these goods ever seen in our town; and the best thing about them is the remarkably low prices at which we are selling them. Fringes, Ball Trimmings, Bandings, All Over Laces and Embroideries, Flouncings, etc., etc.

New striped Messaline Silks just received, in the most attractive shades.

Don't fail to see our beautiful line of Spring and Summer Dress Goods before making your selections.

G. J. Wolfinger